

A curfew was imposed in Kampala and the country's borders closed. A few days later, Kampala radio announced that Lt. General Tito Okello had been sworn in as the new Head of State. Mr. Paulo Muwanga, a former Vice President has been appointed as the new Prime Minister. He is in the process of forming a Council of Ministers. Uganda's land borders have been opened and the airports are also likely to be opened.

The Government of India has been closely following developments in Uganda. There are over a thousand Indian nationals working in Uganda, besides a substantial number of people of Indian origin. We have been naturally concerned about the safety and welfare of these people. While there has been no loss of life among Indian nationals, many of them have suffered loss of property in the looting which followed the coup but the details are still not available.

It has been our endeavour to render the necessary assistance and facilities to those Indian nationals who temporarily wish to leave Uganda. Towards this end, we have been in touch with the new Government in Kampala through our diplomatic representative in Kampala and the Uganda High Commissioner in New Delhi. We have been assured that the Government of Uganda will make every effort to protect Indian lives and property. The Uganda Government has also informed our representatives that these Indians who wish to leave the country temporarily will be allowed to do so.

As a result of our efforts, about 270 Indians including some women and children have been moved out of Uganda by road into Kenya, escorted by our Charge d' Affairs in Kampala. Assistance was rendered to them at the border by Asian voluntary organisations in Kenya and the Indian High Commission in Kenya.

Arrangements have also been made to air-lift those Indian nationals who

left Uganda and who wish to return to India. An Air India plane has been kept ready on a standby basis and will fly to Nairobi as soon as the necessary arrangements at that end have been completed and sufficient number of passengers are ready to leave.

As soon as the news of developments in Uganda was announced, the Government of India put into operation a task force in the Ministry of External Affairs to follow these developments on a continuing basis and to suggest measures to deal with them, including particularly the safety of Indian nationals. I am glad to say that this measure of contingency planning has proved useful and Indians wishing to leave Uganda have been able to do so. The cases of those who have lost their properties will be taken up through diplomatic channels. Our diplomatic representatives in Uganda and Kenya have attended to their duties with speed and dedication and a sense of responsibility. I should also like to stress that the Government and people of India wish to maintain cordial relations with the Government and people of Uganda, and it is our sincere hope that the recent developments will not come in the way of the traditional friendship between the two countries.

13.03 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tenth Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM
NABI AZAD) : Sir, I beg to move :

“That this House do agree with
the Tenth Report of the Business
Advisory Committee presented to
the House on the 7th August,
1985.”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The
question is :

"That this House do agree with the Tenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 7th August, 1985."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned for lunch to reassemble at 2.05 p.m.

13.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till five minutes past fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at seven minutes past fourteen of the clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*English*]

- (i) Need to provide adequate funds and technical assistance to Kerala State for setting up a network of Industries based on rubber, Cardamom pepper and coconut etc.

SHRI K. MOHANDAS (Mukundapuram) : Kerala is an industrially backward State. This is one of the very few States where the Central investment is far below the national average. Non-investment in the industrial sector has kept the economy backward and thus over a period of time the number of unemployed persons has increased phenomenally.

Kerala's economy is basically agrarian and cash crops like rubber, coconut, etc., are its mainstay. This sector has a very limited employment potential and hence cannot absorb even a small fraction of the total number of unemployed people which is somewhere in the region of 25 lakhs. Presence of such a large workforce in a state of idleness may create social tensions and strife.

One way to tackle the problem of unemployment is to spend up the industrialisation of the State. A State which is earning valuable foreign exchange for the country deserves better treatment at the hands of the Centre. Kerala abounds in different kinds of cash crops, agricultural crops and fruits. Agro-based industries have tremendous scope in that State. A network of industries based on rubber, cardamom, pepper, coconut products fruits etc. can be set up there which will provide employment to the people as well as bring about economic development in the state.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to provide adequate funds and other technical assistance for setting up these industries.

- (ii) Need to provide funds to Rajasthan for vigorously implementing self-employment programme for educated unemployed youth.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : The self-employment programme for educated unemployed youth as introduced by late beloved Leader Smt. Indira Gandhi proved to be a boon to the youth of the country. It has benefited a large number of unemployed educated youth all over the nation. District industries centres have formulated the various projects of different trades and approved the modalities for implementing the above mentioned programme. Unemployment is the basic problem in the country and its recurrence is higher in percentage amongst the educated youth. The programme provides incentives for economic self-reliance and creates a hope of future settlement in life among the younger generation of the nation. This programme needs priority in comparison to other programmes which are meant eradicate unemployment. The Number of educated youth registered with employment exchanges in the country is rapidly increasing. The self-employment programme gives self-confidence and economic self-reliance on one hand and on the other hand removes the discon-